

February 25, 2019

Contact: Kimberlee Leach
Director of Communications
Dallas County District Attorney's Office
214-653-3756 (Office)
Kimberlee.leach@DallasCounty.org

For Immediate Release: Accused Hitman Found Guilty and Sentenced to Life in Prison in Murder-for-Hire Scheme

(**Dallas, Texas**) – It took jurors less than 45 minutes to find Jesus Trevino, the trigger man in the murder-for-hire killing of a mother of three, guilty of capital murder. Trevino was sentenced to life without parole.

The victim, 37-year-old Laura Grillo, was found shot to death in her Rowlett home in November 2015. Dallas County Prosecutors say Trevino committed the murder after being paid by the victim's finance, Ioannis "John" Makris. Makris has already been convicted of capital murder and is serving a life sentence.

Lead Prosecutor Marissa Hatchett said, "It takes a cold-blooded murderer to shoot a mother of three in the head and an equally heartless individual to pay someone to commit such a heinous act."

In opening statements, the prosecution told jurors Trevino planned the murder so well that it took investigators more than six months to unravel it all. The state's first witness, James Villeda, testified against his former friend, Trevino. He told jurors that they tried to commit the murder three times before but couldn't because too many people were around. He said Makris was agitated that it was taking them so long. Villeda has already agreed to a 25-year plea deal.

Assistant District Attorney's Brandi Mitchell and Ryan Searcy were instrumental in assisting in the prosecution of Trevino.